

Kingston Single Malt Society

www.kingstonsinglemaltsociety.com

A social club for the appreciation of Single Malt Whisky since 1998

DECEMBER 8th, 2014

VOLUME 8; NUMBER 6



MENU

Welcome: *INNIS & GUNN MALT WHISKEY TRAIL BEER*
(introduced by: *Conrad Falkson*)

1st Nosing: *ABERFELDY 21 YEAR OLD*
(introduced by: *John Leighton*)

Soup: Roasted Fennel, Eggplant & Jalapeno

2nd Nosing: *HIGHLAND PARK DARK ORIGINS*
(introduced by: *Bill Gorham*)

2nd Course:

Pan Roasted Mushrooms, Thyme, Garlic, Oxtail & Onion Jam,
Crostini, Truffle Oil, Arugula & Grano Padano

or

Local Kale, Radishes, Carrots, Hazelnuts, Goat Cheese &
Pomegranate Vinaigrette

3rd Nosing: *GLENFARCLAS 105 CASK STRENGTH 10 YEARS OLD*
(introduced by: *Anthony Johnson*)

Main Course:

Roasted Turkey & Spicy Italian Sausage Roll, Sage & Cranberry
Bread Pudding, Roasted Carrots, Potato Puree & Pan Gravy

or

Caramelized Salmon, Wok Fried Bok Choy, Sticky Rice Cake, Thai
Broth

4th Nosing: *GLENLIVET NADURRA OLOROSO*
(introduced by: *John Creber*)

Dessert: Plum, Nectarine, Apricot Compote with Burned Orange &
Whiskey, Vanilla Gelato

COST OF THE MALTS

I know members are always interested in the cost of the single malts we taste. Plus the \$75 Special Occasion Permit and the 16% levy charged by the LCBO for all alcohol served at the dinner.

- **INNIS & GUNN MALT WHISKEY TRAIL** LCBO 390989 |
330 mL bottle **Price: \$4.95** Beer, Ale 7.4% Alcohol/Vol.

- **ABERFELDY 21 YEAR OLD** LCBO 255281 | 750 mL bottle
Price: \$164.99 Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, 40.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **HIGHLAND PARK DARK ORIGINS VINTAGES 620229** |
750 mL bottle **Price: \$79.99** Spirits, Scotch Whisky, 46.8%
Alcohol/Vol.

- **GLENFARCLAS 105 CASK STRENGTH 10 YEARS OLD**
HIGHLAND SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY VINTAGES 677047
| 700 mL bottle **Price \$83.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey, Scotch
Single Malts, 60.0% Alcohol/Vol.

- **THE GLENLIVET NADURRA OLOROSO** LCBO 387498 | 750
mL bottle **Price: \$ 84.95** Spirits, Whisky/Whiskey 60.7%
Alcohol/Vol.

Upcoming Dinner Dates

January 19th, 2015 - Arran - Robbie Burns - VIMY

February 9th, 2015 - Islands - River Mill

March 16th, 2015 - St. Patrick's (Irish) - River Mill

April 20th, 2015 - Islay - VIMY

May 25th, 2015 - Highlands - River Mill

June 22nd, 2015 - BBQ (Final Exam) - VIMY
 July 20th, 2015 - 4rd Annual Bourbon Night - River Mill
 Friday August 21st, 2015 - 8th Annual Premium - River Mill
 September 21st, 2015 - Campbeltown/Lowland - VIMY
 October 19th, 2015 - Speyside/Highlands - River Mill
 November 16th, 2015 - Highlands - VIMY
 December 14th, 2015 - Christmas Dinner - River Mill

NOVEMBER - KSMS Financial Statement

(Money from 26 November attendees @ \$60) = \$1560.00
 November dinner 26 persons = \$39.50/ea = \$1027.00
 Special Occasion Permit @ LCBO = \$75.00
 (Money remaining for buying Single Malt) = \$415.00
 Cost of Single Malts: = \$799.24
 Cost of Pours per Person = \$24.98
 KSMS Monthly operational balance = (-\$341.24)
 Cost per person 26 attendees (All inclusive) = \$73.12

Liquor store smashes \$50k of fine Scotch

5th November, 2014 by Amy Hopkins -
www.thespiritsbusiness.com

A Canadian liquor store lost more than CAD\$50,000 worth of spirits when one of its shelving units collapsed, smashing hundreds of bottles of high-end whisky.

A collapsed shelf lost Canadian liquor store Whitehorse CAD\$50,000. Picture credit: CBC News

As reported by [CBC News](http://www.cbc.com), the Whitehorse liquor shop in Yukon, Canada, experienced the loss last year, but CCTV footage has recently been released.

Bottles of Talisker, The Dalmore, The Glenlivet and Lagavulin were among the super-premium Scotch whiskeys smashed in the wreck.

Representatives of the store said that while not all bottles on the shelving unit were completely destroyed, they would not be sold amid health and safety concerns.

However, *CBC News* reports that insurance only covered about half of the total CAD\$50,873 loss since retailers' mark-up on liquor is around double the wholesale price.

The store now features a new shelving unit approved by structural engineers.



Drinking alcohol could boost your memory

24th October, 2014 by Melita Kiely

Light alcohol consumption by people over the age of 60 could enhance their abilities to remember events, a new study has found.

Brian Downer of the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston headed the study conducted by researchers from UTMB, the University of Kentucky and the University of Maryland.

The findings were published in the *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias*.

Data from more than 660 patients who were



part of the Framingham Heart Study Offspring Cohort was analysed to determine the link between midlife and late-life alcohol consumption, cognitive functioning and regional brain volumes in older adults without dementia or a background of alcohol abuse.

The findings revealed that light and moderate alcohol consumption in older people was linked to the ability to recall memories of events better.

Furthermore, the results showed alcohol had no significant impact on executive function or overall mental ability.

"There were no significant differences in cognitive functioning and regional brain volumes during late life according to reported midlife alcohol consumption status," said Downer.

"This may be due to the fact that adults who are able to continue consuming alcohol into old age are healthier, and therefore have higher cognition and larger regional brain volumes, than people who had to decrease their alcohol consumption due to unfavourable health outcomes."

However, the scientists warned long periods of alcohol abuse – defined as consuming more than five alcoholic drinks in one sitting – is harmful to the brain.

Have just tried - Aberfeldy 12 years old

Tuesday, July 22, 2014 - <http://whiskyforeveryone.blogspot.co.uk/>

This whisky is the flagship single malt from the Highland distillery of Aberfeldy. It has just recently been re-launched with new packaging. This is pictured above and focuses on numerous aspects of the distillery's history and heritage, with the gold lettering paying homage to the discovery of gold particles in the local river. This new identity, which is the first re-branding for Aberfeldy since 1999, forms part of a larger plan for its single malts - the current 21 years old expression has also been given new look, a new travel retail exclusive 18 years old has been added with more ages planned to join the 12 and 21 year olds in the core range.

Aberfeldy is located in the hamlet of the same name in the southern Highlands. It is currently owned by John Dewar & Sons, which is a subsidiary of the larger global Bacardi group. The distillery is engrained in the history of the Dewar's blended Scotch brand, as it was founded and built by John and Tommy Dewar in 1896 with the objective to make single malt for their popular *White Label*. The *White Label* remains one of the world's best known brands is firmly in the world Top 10 for blended whisky sales, with particular strength in the USA. The distillery has a current annual production capacity of 3.5 million.



Aberfeldy is also home to the Dewar's *World of Whisky*, which attracts thousands of visitors each year and has just seen a major renovation completed for this Summer. This, and the distillery's relative proximity to Edinburgh, makes Aberfeldy one of the most visited distilleries in Scotland. This 12 years old expression is bottled at 40% ABV and is available through specialist whisky retailers and larger supermarkets for around the £35-40 mark.

Our tasting notes

The colour is amber and the nose is aromatic, sweet and deliciously promising. There are immediate aromas of toffee, caramel and plenty of dark dried fruits (think of raisins and sultanas in particular). Underneath are aromas of honey, malted barley and candied orange peel and these are complimented by a hint of cinnamon.

On the palate this whisky feels viscous, creamy, rich and warming. The prominent notes are similar to the nose and the sweet toffee and caramel characteristics lead the way, backed up by the dried fruits (the sultanas are particularly vibrant now) and robust malty cereals. These elements mingle with notes of honey, vanilla and some warming woody spices. Cinnamon and nutmeg come through especially and balance the sweeter notes, as does a hint of gingerbread and liquorice. A late note of candied/dried orange peel finishes the palate off nicely

The finish is long and slightly fresher than the nose or palate suggests. It is fruity (the raisins and orange again) and flavoursome with

the sweet toffee fading slowly, and the spicy nutmeg and woody cinnamon notes coming through again right at the end.

What's the verdict?

This whisky is lovely and rounded. It is rich and full of flavour.

While it is not the most complex single malt, but has enough to maintain the interest of the drinker for a number of glasses (- *trust us on this one ...*). We would definitely recommend it for a whisky beginner and especially if you were looking for an 'undiscovered gem'.

We also have to comment that the re-branding is excellent and gives Aberfeldy a presence on the retail shelves that it has been lacking for sometime. It is worth a close up look if you get the chance for the impressive level of detail alone.

Edrington releases NAS whisky Highland Park Dark Origins

1st July, 2014 by Becky Paskin - www.thespiritsbusiness.com

Highland Park single malt Scotch whisky has drawn on its roots for its latest release, Highland Park Dark Origins.

Highland Park Dark Origins will be a permanent, core expression in the Scotch whisky brand's range

Inspired by the clandestine smuggling operation formed by founder Magnus Eunson in the late 1700s, Highland Park Dark Origins is a no-age-statement permanent addition to the distillery's range.



The non-chill filtered expression, bottled at 46.8% abv, features "twice as many" first-fill Sherry casks as Highland Park 12 Year Old, which imparts a darker, richer flavour with "Sherried spice, chocolate twist and signature sweet smoke".

Gerry Tosh, global marketing manager, said: "Cask management is so very crucial to our work at Highland Park. We've strived to raise the bar, working tirelessly in sourcing the right wood and then working and finessing the balances to ensure we create single malt that is rich, warm and enticing in flavour.

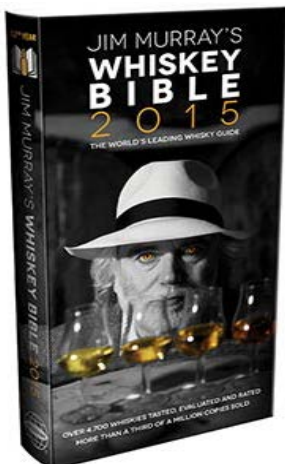
"Dark Origins sits in the heart of our core range complementing them perfectly – distinct in itself, but always and forever a classic Highland Park."

Highland Park Dark Origins

will be rolled out to global markets from July and August 2014, with an RRP of £64.95.

Top 10 'world's best whiskies'

6th November, 2014 by Amy Hopkins - www.thespiritsbusiness.com



Jim Murray has once again lent his palate to naming some of the world's finest whiskies his *Whisky Bible 2015* – here's a selection of the expressions which have won the ultimate accolade over the past 10 years.

We list the 10 world's best whiskies, as identified by whisky expert Jim Murray in his *Whisky Bible*

Every year, whisky connoisseurs eagerly await the release of Murray's *Bible*, which often sparks controversy, debate and agreement among the whisky lovers of the world.

His most recent *Whisky Bible* edition once again surprised consumers by listing a Japanese whisky as the best in the world, leaving Scotch out of the top five.

Assessing thousands of whiskies across all categories each year, Murray lists

detailed tasting notes of each and offers a score. However, the accolade most anticipate discovering each year is that of the World Whisky of the Year.

Since the book's launch in 2004, Murray has given the coveted title to whiskies across single malt Scotch whisky, blended Scotch, Bourbon, rye, and now Japanese whisky.

Over the next few pages, we list the world's best whiskies according to Murray – those which have been awarded the World's Best Whisky title from 2006 to 2015.

2015 – Yamazaki Sherry Cask 2013

Score: 97.5/100

Scooping the coveted number one spot in 2015, Murray described Yamazaki Single Malt Sherry Cask 2013 as "near incredible genius".

With its "nose of exquisite boldness" and finish of "light, teasing spice", the Japanese no-age-statement expression soared to success while Scotch brands failed to appear in Murray's top five.

The Beam Suntory-owned Japanese whisky has been aged in casks that once held Oloroso Sherry, and was described by its producers as having a raisin, Muscat, "sweet and sour" flavour.

2014 – Glenmorangie Ealanta

Score: 97.5/100

Last year's winner was limited edition Scotch single malt, Glenmorangie Ealanta, which according to Murray was "borderline perfection".

The release had been aged for 19 years in virgin American white oak casks sourced from trees grown in the Mark Twain National Forest producing "one of the longest finished of any Scotch this year", as described by Murray.

Murray also noted its unique aroma and taste profile, which after 30 years of experience tasting whisky was "completely new" to him.

Commenting on the award at the time, Dr Bill Lumsden, director of distilling and whisky creation at The Glenmorangie Company, said "This is a wonderful award for us and testament to the ongoing success of our Private Edition range.

"Jim Murray has been a leading judge of whisky for three decades so this is a major coup for us."

2013 – Thomas H. Handy Sazerac 2011

Score: 97.5/100

Proving that age is just a number is six-year-old Thomas H. Handy Sazerac 2011, which won the world's best whisky crown in 2013.

Produced by Kentucky Distillery, the young rye whiskey amassed applause from Murray for its "extraordinary life and balance on the palate" as well as its "uncanny ability to just keep working on full alert for the longest imaginable time".

Despite its high abv of 64.3%, Murray advised consuming Handy neat without ice or water at room temperature to "maximise" the flavours and aromas.

2012 – Old Pulteney 21 Year Old

Score: 97.5/100

Hailing from one of the UK's most northerly distilleries, 2012 was the year that Murray bestowed the title of the best whisky in the world upon Old Pulteney 21 Year Old – for the third time.

It was only the third time a single malt had won the accolade and the second Scottish distillery to find itself in the top spot.

The result put the Pulteney distillery in Wick, Caithness, on the map, with Murray commenting: "One of Scotland's great undiscovered distilleries about to become discovered, I think...and rightly so."

2011 – Ballantine's 17 Year Old

Score: 97.5/100

Whisky lovers were somewhat surprised when a blended whisky surpassed all other drams assessed by Murray and his crew of tasters in 2011, when Chivas Brothers' Ballantine's 17 Year Old was named Whisky of the Year.

Reflecting a similar trend to 2015, a single malt Scotch whisky failed to be awarded a top three spot.

Of the winning blend, Murray said: "Blends are seen by many as the poor relations to single malts. Ballantine's 17 proves, quite spectacularly, what many of us have known for a great many years: it isn't.

"A blender has the chance to create something unique and quite beautiful by putting together many whisky styles. With Ballantine's 17, the blender has done his job in glorious, quite majestic fashion."

2010 – Sazerac Rye 18 Year Old

Score: 97.5/100

Murray is known for his love of Buffalo Trace's Antique Collection, naming the Thomas H. Handy Sazerac 2011 as the world's best whisky in 2013.

In 2010, he recognised Sazerac Rye 18 Year Old as the world whisky of the year, giving it a score of 97.5 out of 100 – at this point in the

Whisky Bible's history, this was only the second time such a high score was given.

At the time, Murray said: "In beating all other world whisky types, Sazerac 18, has set the bar for rye whiskey and it will be fascinating in forthcoming years to see what is bottled to try to at least match it."

2009 – Ardbeg Uigeadail

Score: 97.5/100

A favourite among Scotch whisky connoisseurs, the Ardbeg distillery was celebrated in Murray's Whisky Bible 2009, with its Uigeadail bottling named the finest whisky of the year.

Uigeadail is a special vatting that marries Ardbeg's traditional "deep, smoky notes" with "luscious, raisiny tones of old ex-Sherry casks", bottled at cask strength. The whisky was awarded 97.5 points out of 100, at this point the highest score awarded in Murray's Whisky Bible.

Murray said: "From the utter silky brilliance of the delivery to the multi-layered middle, this simply oozes complexity, and on a level only a handful of distilleries in the world can even dream of reaching."

2008 – Ardbeg Ten

Score: 97/100

Another Ardbeg expression which received Murray's highest praise was Ardbeg Ten – a 10-year-old non-chill-filtered expression from the revered distillery.

The expression is described as having notes of pear, toffee, chocolate and vanilla, with a underlying flavours of seas spray, leather and even some medicinal phenolics.

Murray said: "This particular bottling of Ten is unquestionably the best expression of 10-year-old Ardbeg since legendary – though rarely tasted – 1983/4 bottlings. So as much as I tried, I had to give World Whisky of the Year to Ardbeg Ten, it is simply that magnificent."

2007 – Old Parr Superior 18 Year Old

Score: 97/100

Blended Scotch whisky Old Parr Superior was named the World Whisky of the Year by Murray in 2007. The expression, which is owned by Diageo, was praised for its "ability to incorporate many characteristics into the whisky and forge something unique".

Murray tasted the whisky in a taste-off with three other whiskies. He said: "On the second round I realised that the Old Parr was actually the only whisky that showed the finer qualities over all three rival whiskies. It had astonishing complexity and that is what a blend should be all about.

"Because of the single malt revolution of the last decade, people had begun to turn their backs on blends, which is a shame.

2006 – George T. Stagg

Score: 97/100

Bourbon has been booming of late, and back in 2006 it was limited-production George T. Stagg that made a name for itself in Murray's Whisky Bible.

With an abv of 65.9%, the expression has been aged for approximately 15 years and is distributed by Buffalo Trace as part of its Antique Collection.

Flavours include of blood orange, dark chocolate, vanilla and spice leading Murray to question: "Just what is it about George T. Stagg? "The quality defies belief."

Please drink responsibly.

Just a note because we care.

Please understand that for the purpose of each event you are advised to drink responsibly and refrain from excessive consumption. The dinners hosted by the Kingston Single Malt Society are sampling events. By agreeing to pay and thereby attend the dinner you agree to release from legal responsibility and hold harmless Kingston Single Malt Society, its President Roberto Di Fazio, and any other volunteers from liability or claims arising from these events.

Reservation policy

- Our contract with the Officer's Mess Kitchen requires that we provide seven (7) business days notice for them to guarantee accommodation for our requested numbers. Each month an invitation will be sent out to all members of the Society in the first week of the respective month in which the dinner will be held. To accommodate the Kitchen's needs and meet our contractual obligation with them; our members are requested to respond to the emailed invitation seven (7) business days prior to the respective dinner to guarantee a seat at the dinner. After that members will be placed on a waitlist.

- For these individuals the process will be as follows, using the Monday September 15th, 2014 dinner date as an example:

- Dinner invitations will be sent out Friday August 15th, 2014. Please respond to me (rdifazio04@gmail.com). I will then acknowledge that you have a seat. Please understand that if you do not receive a response you are not guaranteed a seat at the respective dinner. In such circumstances (e.g., computer glitches) please e-mail me again or call me (613-634-0397).

- Accommodation at the dinner will be guaranteed for all members who respond by Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm.

Cancellation policy

- Using the same example as above, anyone who cancels anytime prior to Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm will be removed from the list.

- Anyone canceling between Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm and Monday September 15th, 2014 will be expected to pay for the cost of the dinner and scotch (\$60). It is the responsibility of the member who cancels their (or their guest's) reservation to find a replacement. If I am asked to find a substitute and one is available, then the member will be asked to pay for 50% of their dinner cost.

- Anyone who fails to attend the Monday September 15th, 2014 dinner without having cancelled and been successfully replaced will be expected to pay the full cost (\$60). A member will be responsible for their guest's cancellation (\$70).

- If a member asks to be included at the dinner between Thursday August 28th, 2014 @ 6pm and Monday September 15th, 2014, their name will be placed on a wait-list and be accommodated on a first-come first-serve basis.

Membership and Dinner prices for 2013-2014

Membership Fee:	\$40 (singles) \$60 (couples)
One Time Initiation Fee:	\$15
Standard Dinner Fee:	\$60 (member) \$70 (non-member)
Dinner only - No Single Malt:	\$50 (member) \$60 (non-member)
Robbie Burns Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)
	(includes donation to RMC Pipes & Drums with Highland Dancers)
June BBQ Dinner Fee:	\$70 (member) \$80 (non-member)

If you have any questions or comments please free to contact me. Thank you for your understanding, Roberto



Kingston Single Malt Society

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